

FILE

CONFIDENTIAL



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

20 July 1983

da

e

Message from President Reagan: Human Rights
in the Soviet Union

Thank you for your letter of 18 July.

The Prime Minister has approved a slightly revised version of the draft reply to the President. I enclose a letter signed by Mrs. Thatcher and should be grateful if you would arrange for its delivery.

A. J. COLES

Brian Fall, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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SUBJECT

cc MASTER
OPS

FILE

WFO



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

PRIME MINISTER'S 20 July 1983

PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL No. T 106 / 83

Dear Ron,

Thank you for your letter of 2 July about human rights in the Soviet Union.

I fully share your concern. Violations by the Soviet Union of commitments it has made about human rights call into question its behaviour in other areas.

We must certainly do all we can to help those courageous individuals who are suffering in the Soviet Union for trying to obtain or restore rights which would be taken for granted in our own countries; and those many other ordinary people who wish to emigrate, or who are divided from other members of their family and long to be reunited. On 15 July I again discussed with Mrs. Shcharansky the situation of her husband, one of many distressing personal cases.

It is obviously important for Western countries to consult about these issues and so far as possible to co-ordinate the action which they intend to take with the Soviet authorities. We were glad to have Walter Stoessel here. Geoffrey Howe has recently had useful discussions both with him and with George Shultz in Washington about our policy.

Yours ever
Ronald Reagan

The President of the United States of America.

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

18 July 1983

Type letter please.

Don Stan,

*100/17
/2.*

Message from President Reagan: Human Rights in the Soviet Union

As promised in Roger Bone's letter of 12 July forwarding the message from President Reagan which was brought by Ambassador Stoessel, I enclose a draft reply to the President. If the Prime Minister is content, we will arrange for this to be delivered through our Embassy in Washington.

*Yours ever,
E*

(B J P Fall)
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street

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Soviet Union
Soviet Jenny
6/19

DRAFT: ~~minute/letter/teletype/despatch/note~~

TYPE: Draft/Final 1+

FROM:
Prime Minister

Reference

DEPARTMENT: TEL. NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

TO:
President Reagan

Your Reference

- Top Secret
- Secret
- Confidential
- Restricted
- Unclassified

Copies to:

PRIVACY MARKING

SUBJECT:

.....In Confidence

CAVEAT.....

Thank you for your letter of 2 July ^{about human} which ~~Walter~~
~~Stoessel gave to Geoffrey Howe when he called on him on~~
~~12 July.~~ *rights in the Soviet Union*

~~As you know, I fully share your concern about the~~
~~Soviet record on human rights. I made my views clear,~~
~~again when I saw Mrs Shcharansky on 15 July. Violations~~
~~by the Soviet Union of the commitments which it has~~
~~undertaken in this area inevitably call into question~~
~~Soviet good faith in other areas. Quite apart from~~
~~this, I believe we must do what we can to help those~~
~~courageous individuals who are suffering in the Soviet~~
~~nion for doing nothing more than endeavouring to obtain~~
~~or restore rights which would be taken for granted in~~
~~our own countries; and those many other ordinary~~
~~people who wish to emigrate, or who are divided from~~
~~other members of their family and long to be reunited.~~

*On 15 July I
 again discussed with
 Mrs. Shcharansky
 the distressing case
 of her husband.*

Enclosures—flag(s).....

~~Geoffrey Howe and George Shultz had a private word~~
~~about some aspects of this in Washington last week.~~

/It is

It is obviously important for Western countries to consult about these issues and so far as possible to co-ordinate the action which they intend to take with the Soviet authorities. Geoffrey Howe and Ray Whitney had useful discussions with Walter Stoessel about how best to do this after the end of the Madrid conference, and I hear that there has since been a good discussion at NATO.

about our policy.

*Ad 25.
7*

has result

*and with
George Schultz*